

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

FRANKIE LON HICKS,

Petitioner,

v.

JIM ROBERTSON,

Respondent.

No. 1:21-cv-01276-AWI-SKO (HC)

**ORDER ADOPTING FINDINGS AND
RECOMMENDATIONS (Doc. No. 17)**

**ORDER DENYING PETITION FOR WRIT
OF HABEAS CORPUS, DIRECTING
CLERK OF COURT TO ENTER
JUDGMENT AND CLOSE CASE, AND
DECLINING TO ISSUE CERTIFICATE
OF APPEALABILITY**

Petitioner is a state prisoner proceeding in propria persona with a petition for writ of habeas corpus pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2254. On April 12, 2022, the Magistrate Judge assigned to the case issued Findings and Recommendation to deny the petition on its merits. (Doc. No. 17.) This Findings and Recommendation was served upon all parties and contained notice that any objections were to be filed within thirty (30) days from the date of service of that order. To date, no party has filed objections.

In accordance with the provisions of 28 U.S.C. § 636 (b)(1)(C), the Court has conducted a de novo review of the case. Having carefully reviewed the entire file, the Court concludes that the Magistrate Judge's Findings and Recommendation is supported by the record and proper analysis.

In addition, the Court declines to issue a certificate of appealability. A state prisoner

1 seeking a writ of habeas corpus has no absolute entitlement to appeal a district court's denial of
2 his petition, and an appeal is only allowed in certain circumstances. *Miller-El v. Cockrell*, 537
3 U.S. 322, 335-336 (2003). The controlling statute in determining whether to issue a certificate of
4 appealability is 28 U.S.C. § 2253, which provides as follows:

5 (a) In a habeas corpus proceeding or a proceeding under section 2255 before a district
6 judge, the final order shall be subject to review, on appeal, by the court of appeals for the circuit
in which the proceeding is held.

7 (b) There shall be no right of appeal from a final order in a proceeding to test the
8 validity of a warrant to remove to another district or place for commitment or trial a person
charged with a criminal offense against the United States, or to test the validity of such person's
9 detention pending removal proceedings.

10 (c)(1) Unless a circuit justice or judge issues a certificate of appealability, an appeal may
not be taken to the court of appeals from—

11 (A) the final order in a habeas corpus proceeding in which the detention
12 complained of arises out of process issued by a State court; or

13 (B) the final order in a proceeding under section 2255.

14 (2) A certificate of appealability may issue under paragraph (1) only if the applicant has
made a substantial showing of the denial of a constitutional right.

15 (3) The certificate of appealability under paragraph (1) shall indicate which specific issue
16 or issues satisfy the showing required by paragraph (2).

17 If a court denies a petitioner's petition, the court may only issue a certificate of
18 appealability when a petitioner makes a substantial showing of the denial of a constitutional right.
19 28 U.S.C. § 2253(c)(2). To make a substantial showing, the petitioner must establish that
20 "reasonable jurists could debate whether (or, for that matter, agree that) the petition should have
21 been resolved in a different manner or that the issues presented were 'adequate to deserve
22 encouragement to proceed further.'" *Slack v. McDaniel*, 529 U.S. 473, 484 (2000) (quoting
23 *Barefoot v. Estelle*, 463 U.S. 880, 893 (1983)).

24 In the present case, the Court finds that Petitioner has not made the required substantial
25 showing of the denial of a constitutional right to justify the issuance of a certificate of
26 appealability. Reasonable jurists would not find the Court's determination that Petitioner is not
27 entitled to federal habeas corpus relief debatable, wrong, or deserving of encouragement to
28 proceed further. Thus, the Court DECLINES to issue a certificate of appealability.

1 Accordingly, the Court orders as follows:

- 2 1. The Findings and Recommendations, filed April 12, 2022 (Doc. No. 17), is
3 ADOPTED IN FULL;
- 4 2. The petition for writ of habeas corpus is DENIED WITH PREJUDICE;
- 5 3. The Clerk of Court is directed to ENTER JUDGMENT AND CLOSE THE CASE;
6 and,
- 7 4. The Court DECLINES to issue a certificate of appealability.

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9 IT IS SO ORDERED.

10 Dated: July 15, 2022



11 SENIOR DISTRICT JUDGE

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